# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# ATOMIC ENERGY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3710
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2015
Uranium Production
Hari Shri G.

**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

(a)whether the production of Uranium has far exceeded the country''s annual fuel requirement of 650 MT for the Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors, which means the country has surplus nuclear fuel that will last several months, and if so, the details thereof;

(b)whether every 700 MW of reactor needs 125 MT of uranium every year, and if so, the details thereof;

(c)whether with the rising number of power reactors in the country, the demand of uranium is expected to rise; and

(d)if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard ?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH) :

(a)During the period 2014-15, the Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), Hyderabad, a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) produced 1252 Metric Tonnes (MT) of natural uranium based nuclear fuel for the Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors, both under IAEA safeguards (using imported uranium) and also those under domestic safeguards (using indigenous uranium). The production is higher than the total quantity needed for meeting the annual requirement.

(b)Yes, Sir. The fuel requirement of an indigenous 700 MW Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) is about 125 tonnes of UO2 (natural uranium) per annum

(c)Yes, Sir.

(d)Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), has identified large resources of uranium in India especially in Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Rajasthan and Telangana. Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) a Public Sector Enterprise under Department of Atomic Energy is engaged in mining and is operating seven uranium mines and two process plants in Jharkhand. Some of these are under capacity augmentation to increase production. A large underground mine and process plant at Tummalapalle in Andhra Pradesh has been constructed. In addition, a new underground mine and plant at Gogi in Karnataka, open pit mine at Kylleng Pyndensohiong Mawathabah(KPM) in Meghalaya, one open pit and three underground mines at Lambapur in Andhra Pradesh, and one uranium mining project in Sikar district of Rajasthan are in different stages of implementation.

Consequent upon India signing the Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement with United States of America on 10.10.2008, the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has been importing Uranium ore to meet fuel requirements of Nuclear Reactors under IAEA Safeguards. As part of this activity, Contractual Agreements for import of uranium were signed with M/s. Navoi Mining & Metallurgical Combinat State Company (NMMC), Uzbekistan, M/s. JSC TVEL Corporation, Russia, M/s.NAC Kazatomprom, Kazakhstan and M/s. CAMECO, Canada.

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